



## Strengthening Drought Resilience for Smallholder Farmers and Pastoralists in the IGAD Region (DRESS-EA)

### What you need to know about Joint Resource Mobilization in Drought Management

Increasing temperatures and sea levels, changing precipitation patterns and more extreme weather are threatening human health and safety, food, water security and socio-economic development in Africa. Climate crisis has engulfed every corner of the globe. The average global temperature is currently estimated to be 1.2°C above pre-industrial times. Although African continent is responsible for a negligible amount of total global greenhouse gas emissions, it continues to bear significant threat from climate change. There are fears the world could cross the 1.5°C threshold within the next two decades, if action is not taken. However, climate experts agree that there is a shrinking window of opportunity to address the unrelenting climate crisis. And time to act is here. Limiting some of these existing trends calls for a sustained investment towards achieving the individual country's Nationally

Determined Contribution (NDC) towards lowering the greenhouse gas emissions.

When it comes to climate change mitigation and adaptation, countries get financial support from the Adaptation Fund which finances projects and programs that help vulnerable communities in developing countries adapt to climate change. The initiatives are based on country needs, views and priorities. The Fund is financed largely by government and private donors, and also from a two percent share of proceeds of Certified Emission Reductions (CERs) issued under the Protocol's Clean Development Mechanism projects.

Since 2010, the Adaptation Fund has committed US\$ 850 million to projects and programmes to date, including 123 concrete projects. This spans nearly 100 countries, including 19 small island

developing states and 33 least developed countries, serving about 28 million total beneficiaries

Importantly, climate change adaptation requires significant resources beyond what is already needed to achieve international development objectives.

During one of the Regional Steering Committee Meetings for the Strengthening Drought Resilience of Smallholder Farmers and Pastoralists in the IGAD Region (DRESS-EA) Project in Djibouti the impacts of adaptation fund in catalyzing the effects of global warming were brought to light.

The main objective of the DRESS-EA Project is to increase the resilience of smallholder farmers and pastoralists in the IGAD region to drought-related climate change risks through the establishment of appropriate early warning systems and the implementation of drought adaptation actions.

However, in most cases, contributions available from Adaptation Fund to support adaptation measures at country levels are insufficient to fund all activities in one program or reach the most vulnerable parts of the country, leaving the affected countries with two options: reduce the number of activities or engage in joint resource mobilization to cover the funding gap.

Individual organizations and countries across Africa, have the opportunity to strengthen their capacities around resources and finances mobilization by looking at the below structure. Its main aim is to build their systems and structures and find ways to sustain their critical work in climate change adaptation.

But is there a difference between joint resource mobilization and fundraising? Resource mobilization is not fundraising because it is always considered to be an alternative for fundraising and in most cases is used interchangeably.

In our case, therefore, joint resource mobilization is much more than just fund raising because it includes; accessing a range of resources rather than just money or financial, building a network from a wide range of resource providers and using a variety of mobilization mechanisms.

Simply put, joint resource mobilization is more comprehensive than simply fundraising. Fundraising relies solely on financial and economic resources and does not factor in additional resources available at a local or community level.

Before embarking on a joint resource mobilization strategy, country's need to factor in the following salient features; always ensure buy-in and ownership of the Joint Resource Mobilization strategy, set and agree on objectives and principles of a Joint Resource Mobilization strategy, focus Joint Resource Mobilization efforts on the highest programmatic priorities and note

that programme drives the funding, not the other way around.

Each context for a JRM varies from one country to another-meaning there is no one size fit all approach when coming up with a strategy. For example, strategic approaches, modalities and tactics will inevitably be different in low-income countries as opposed to middle-income countries or net contributing countries.

After conducting a SWOT analysis the joint resource mobilization then narrows down to various sources to support the course. For example, they can seek social resources from available groups to join in the effort. These includes; other social movements and community organizations, supportive traditional authorities, youth associations, market women's associations, progressive religious organizations, trade unions and alumnae associations.





More so, joint resource mobilization is now proving critical at a time when the growth in climate impacts is far outpacing country's efforts to adapt to them.

In Sudan, for example, NDC and HCENR- already have an implementation plan which can support the resource mobilization for NDC implementation. In other countries, ministries don't have much idea of the projects within the MIWR (project mapping) and this negatively affects the process.

In a bid to prosper in joint resource mobilization, Country Water Partnerships need to do project mapping in the ministry or project ideas, Global Water Partnership Eastern Africa (GWPEA) should utilize the Multisector platform in Sudan to strengthen the resource

mobilization, planning of activities in the countries- bringing together the various sectors to sit together to identify which project are existing, target institutions like UNEP, UNDP for joint resource mobilization and reactivation of CWPs- countries should a generate resource mobilization plan.

The meeting later agreed on the need to form nomination committee to coordinate activities for both sectoral and inter-ministerial meetings. The committee's roles included; going beyond the project countries and include all IGAD member states, develop Terms of Reference for the committee (to include a component of the committee to co-opt members from countries beyond the non- DRESS-EA project country), to select one representative from the DRESS-EA

country- one member from the DRESS-EA countries RSC.

And then there is the economic and financial aspect of the resources including; international non-governmental organizations (NGOs), bilateral and multilateral Organizations (E.g.: The World Bank, DFID, UN Agencies), national governments, decentralized institutions, private and philanthropic foundations, Corporate and academic institutions.

Lastly, it is important to make an informed choice about the right donors to send your proposal to. Of importance, is to know critical aspects about the donor including; understanding what the donor wants in terms of goals, mission, concerns, knowing the practical details of format, and timing among others.

The DRESSEA project is a four year project which is funded by the Adaptation Fund and implemented by the [Sahara and Sahel Observatory](#), while execution is undertaken by GWPEAf at regional level and the four riparian countries of Djibouti, Kenya, Sudan and Uganda at national level. The project focuses on increasing the resilience of smallholder farmers and pastoralists to climate change risks mainly those related to drought, by building on the existing initiatives and establishing new mechanisms to address drought-related challenges in the region through facilitating investments in early warning systems, building the capacity of targeted stakeholders, supporting innovative adaptation actions and enhancing knowledge management and skills.

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